

Message Text

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ACTION VO-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3527

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 15747

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CVIS UR CGEN PFOR SREF (CHOU TSE-YANG)

SUBJECT: CHINESE MUSCOVITE ASPIRES TO EMIGRATE

1. SUMMARY: CHOU TSE-YANG, CPR CITIZEN AND CHINESE-LANUGAGE ANNOUNCER FOR RADIO MOSCOW, ASKED WHETHER AMEMBASSY HAD ANY BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT LIKELIHOOD USSR WOULD GRANT HIM EXIT VISA FOR TAIWAN. CHOU ALSO ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING VYZOV TO APPLY FOR SOVIET EXIT VISA FOR UNITED STATES. END SUMMARY.

2. CHOU, BORN APRIL 22, 1933 IN SHANGAI, RESIDES IN MOSCOW AT PROSPEKT MIR 58, APARTMENT 120, TELEPHONE 280 2567. HE LIVES WITH HIS SOVIET WIFE MANEFA (MASHA) PETROVNA NEE ROCHEVA, ETHNIC RUSSIAN BORN NOV 26, 1936 MURMANSK, AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN ABOUT AGE 10. CHOU CAME TO USSR AS STUDENT CHEMIST, ATTENDED INSTITUTE IN LENINGRAD WHERE HE MET MASHA, RETURNED TO CHINA ABOUT 1957, THEN CAME BACK TO USSR IN 1962, MARRIED AND REMAINED BUT NEVER BECAME SOVIET CITIZEN.

3. CHOU WORKS AS CHINESE-LANGUAGE ANNOUNCER FOR RADIO MOSCOW, BUT APPARENTLY IS NOT IN BAD GRACES OF CHINESE EBASSY, WHICH HAS CONTINUED TO EXTEND VALIDITY OF HIS CPR PASSPORT NO. 089101. ALSO, HE RECENTLY ATTENDED CHINESE EMBASSY NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION FOR CHINESE RESIDENTS OF MOSCOW (HELD SEPARATELY FROM REPRESENTATIONAL NATIONAL DAY FUNCTION).

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4. THROUGH MUTUAL SOVIET FRIENDS CHOU INVITED U.S. EMBOFF

AND WIFE TO CHINESE DINNER AT HIS APARTMENT OCT 12. CHOU'S MOST APPARENT MOTIVATION WAS DESIRE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION AND HELP IN EMIGRATING FROM USSR. CHOU SAID HE WANTS DESPERATELY TO MOVE WITH FAMILY TO "FREE COUNTRY," AND ASKED IF EMBOFF HAD ANY INFORMATION ON LIKELEHOOD SOVIETS WOULD GRANT HIM AND HIS FAMILY EXIT VISAS FOR TAIWAN. EMBOFF SAID HE DID NOT KNOW; HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE IN USSR APPLYING FOR EXIT TO TAIWAN. ASKED IF CHOU WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE "REUNIFICATION" OF CPR AND TAIWAN, CHOU SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WOULD NOT OCCUR FOR AT LEAST 20 YEARS. ASKED IF HE HAD RELATIVES IN TAIWAN, HE SAID HE BELIVED HE DID BUT WAS NOT IN TOUCH WITH THEM.

5. CHOU ALSO EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN EMIGRATING TO UNITED STATES, WHERE CHINESE CULTURE EXISTS IN FREEDOM. CHOU SAID NEITHER HE NOR WIFE HAVE RELATIVES IN U.S., AND ASKED IF EMBOFF COULD HELP HIM OBTAIN VYZOV INVITATION TO APPLY FOR SOVIET EXIT VISA FOR UNITED STATES. EMBOFF SAID HE WOULD INFORM VOLAGS OF CHOU'S INTEREST.

6. CHOU SAID THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF CONSTRUING JEWISHNESS FOR WIFE. NEVERTHELESS, IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN VYZOV INVITATION HE HAD APPROACHED NETHERLANDS EMBASSY ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO. HE COULD NEITHER NAME NOR DESCRIBE NETHERLANDS OFFICIAL WITH WHOM HE SPOKE.

7. CHOU SHOWED EMBOFF CHINESE-LANGUAGE MANUSCRIPT WHICH, ACCORDING TO CHOU, IS BOOK HE IS WRITING CRITICAL OF LIFE IN USSR. CHOU SAID HE HOPES TO PUBLISH IT IN WEST. IT SEEMED TO EMBOFF CHOU WAS ENDEAVORING TO OFFER IT AS BAIT TO ENTICE USG TO HELP HIM EXIT USSR.

8. EMBOFF NOTED WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES SEEM TO HAVE AGREEMENT THAT ONE COUNTRY WILL NOT GRANT EXIT VISA TO AN ALIEN FROM ANOTHER WP COUNTRY WITHOUT OBTAINING CLEARANCE OF THAT GOVERNMENT. EMBOFF SAID HE DID NOT KNOW IF SUCH AGREEMENT EXISTS BETWEEN USSR AND CPR IN VIEW OF PRESENT RELATIONS. CHOU SAID IN HIS CASE HE BELIEVED CPR EMBASSY WOULD BE CONSULTED, BUT HE WAS CONFIDENT IT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO HIS RECEIVING EXIT VISA--HE WAS EVEN MORE CONFIDENT OF CPR CONCURRENCE THAN SOVIET PERMISSION, AND HE THOUGHT CONFIDENTIAL

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HE STOOD BETTER THAN AVERAGE CHANCE OF OBTAINING SOVIET PERMISSION BECAUSE OF HIS FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP. HE NOTED HE RECEIVED EXIT PERMISSION FROM BOTH COUNTRIES TO ATTEND MUNICH OLYMPICS AS JOURNALIST AND ACTUALLY RECEIVED FRG VISA, BUT TRIP WAS CANCELLED AT LAST MOMENT WITHOUT EXPLANATION BY HIS EMPLOYER.

9. DURING CONVERSATION CHOU SAID HE WAS NEVER MEMBER OF CPSU OR CHINESE CP. SAID WIFE, WHO HAS NEVER BEEN TO CHINA, WAS NEVER

MEMBER CPSU.

10. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, MUTUAL SOVIET FRIEND WHO KNOW CHOU WELL SCOFFED AT HIS ASSERTION HE SEEKS "FREEDOM." SHE SUGGESTED HE IS MOTIVATED BY MATERIALISTIC MOTIVATIONS. SHE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE LIVES WELL BY SOVIET STANDARDS--HAS GOOD JOB, AND GOOD APARTMENT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR BIGGER ONE. HIS WIFE DOES NOT WORK--A STATE SYMBOL AMONG MUSCOVITES OF HIS CLASS.

11. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER ANY VOLAG IS INTERESTED IN CHOU AND FAMILY, AND MIGHT PROVIDE VYZOV FOR UNITED STATES OR SEEK RELATIVES IN TAIWAN ON HIS BEHALF SHOULD HE PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THEM.
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